

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received JAN 27 1983
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Lake County Courthouse and Sheriff's Residence

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 3rd Avenue at 6th Street N/A not for publication

city, town Two Harbors N/A vicinity of

state Minnesota code 22 county Lake code 075

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Lake County

street & number Lake County Courthouse

city, town Two Harbors N/A vicinity of state Minnesota 55616

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registrar of Deeds - Lake County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town Two Harbors state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A N/A federal N/A state N/A county N/A local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society - Fort Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota 55111

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Lake County Courthouse and Sheriff's Residence are situated on a prominent corner site a short distance north of Two Harbors' central business district.

Constructed in 1906 to replace an 1887 structure which was destroyed by fire, the Courthouse is a two story brick and stone structure executed in the Beaux Arts style. Essentially square in plan and set upon a high limestone-faced basement, the surface of the building is articulated with a combination of dominant brick quoins, stone window surrounds, and a projecting modillioned cornice above a wide frieze. Above the cornice is a decorative parapet with a band of concentric squares simulating a Greek fret. A semi-circular dome with metallic, fish scale shingles is centrally positioned.

The focal point of the Courthouse is its principal entry, reached via a monumental staircase and enframed by paired two-story composite columns. The parapet projects slightly above the cornice at the entry to simulate a low pediment. The entrance portal itself is recessed within the colonnade and boasts a stone pediment embellished with acroteria and supported by consoles.

The Lake County Sheriff's Residence and Jail is located immediately adjacent to the Courthouse. It is a two-and-one-half story brick building executed in a simplified Queen Anne style. Prominent architectural features include a projecting central bay on the principal facade, complex gable-hip combination roof, brownstone foundation, and an open one-story porch allowing access to both the sheriff's residence and the jail. The residence occupies the front portion of the structure, with the jail in the rear section. The building has been painted.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law.	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates ca.1887 & 1906 **Builder/Architect** James Allen McLeod, Architect
 Builder: Pastoret & Lunz

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Lake County Courthouse and Sheriff's Residence are significant as first-and-second-generation government buildings which have served as the seat of Lake County government since their construction in c.1887 and 1906, and as representative examples of late 19th century Queen Anne and early 20th century Beaux Arts style public buildings.

Lake County was established in 1856. Beaver Bay, platted in 1856 and located 34 miles north of Two Harbors, was designated the county seat. In 1884, Two Harbors, which derives its name from Agate and Burlington Bays, became the terminus of the Duluth and Iron Range Railroad Company, which linked the Vermilion Range mines to the ore docks on Lake Superior, a distance of 72 miles. Because of Two Harbors' strategic location, the county seat was moved from Beaver Bay. A two story frame Queen Anne style courthouse was constructed that year; and it is probable the two story, brick Queen Anne style Sheriff's Residence was constructed at the same time.

In 1904 the courthouse burned and in January, 1905, the county commissioners authorized a bond issue and loan application of an amount not to exceed \$85,000 for the construction of a new courthouse. The commissioners selected James Allen McLeod of St. Paul as architect, Pastoret and Lunz of Two Harbors as contractors, and Odin J. Oyen of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, for interior decoration. The building was completed in the spring of 1906.

The Lake County Sheriff's Residence and Courthouse significantly represent two generations of public building construction and the influence the iron mining operations and railroads had in determining the location of the county seat. The prominent location of the courthouse and its imposing architectural design reflect the efforts of the county to establish a sense of permanence for county government in Two Harbors.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Cross, Marion E. Minnesota Courthouses. (Minneapolis?): Colonial Dames of Am. in Minn. 1966. (Trelford, Thomas H.) Two Harbors in 1910, Lake County, Minnesota. (Two Harbors?) Privately Published, 1910.

Two Harbors Iron News. 20 January, 10 March, 30 June, 22 September, 22 December 1905.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Two Harbors, Minn.

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UTM References

A

1	5	6	0	1	0	0	0	5	2	0	8	2	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 14, 15 and 16 in Block 15, City of Two Harbors.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan Roth, Research Historian & Charles Nelson, Historical Architect

organization Minnesota Historical Society

date November 12, 1982

street & number Fort Snelling History Center

telephone 612-726-1171

city or town St. Paul

state Minnesota

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Russell W. Fridley

title Russell W. Fridley
State Historic Preservation Officer

date 1-12-83

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 2/24/83

J. Melvyn Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 2 Page 1

REFERENCE NUMBER: 83000912

STATE: Minnesota

COUNTY: Lake

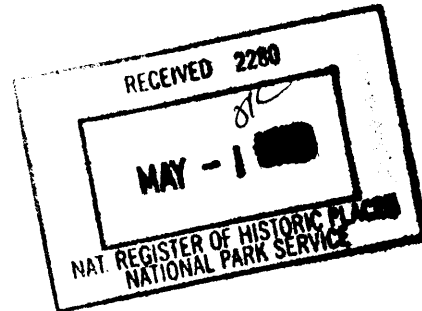
RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Lake County Courthouse and Sheriff's Residence

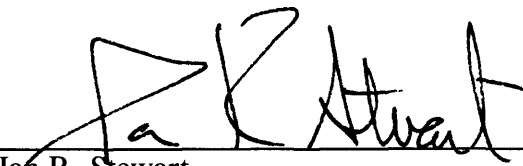
CITY/TOWNSHIP: Two Harbors

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS: 601 3rd Ave.

COMMENTS: Address Correction





Ian R. Stewart
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

4/24/98
Date